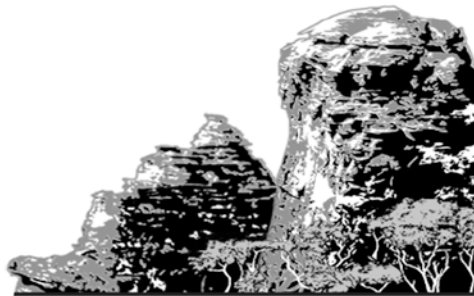




Protect the Gardens of Stone

“Say NO to open cut mining!”



To: Local Member of Parliament

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

C/- The Blue Mountains Conservation Society
P.O. Box 29
WENTWORTH FALLS. NSW 2782

Suburb _____ P/Code: _____

Email: _____

Dear _____ MP,

Act to protect the Gardens of Stone from open-cut mining

I ask you to make representations to the Hon. Bradley Hazzard, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, calling on him to reject the 'Coalpac Pty Ltd Consolidation Project' proposal, Castlereagh Highway Cullen Bullen, NSW. This 'consolidation' involves extending open-cut and highwall mining into a large area of the publicly-owned Ben Bullen State Forest (BBSF), NSW and will impact the adjoining lands of the Gardens of Stone.

I am opposed to the development of the proposed Coalpac open cut mine because:

- If approved, the mine would scalp all biodiversity from 1088 hectares of mainly old growth forest and wildlife habitat in the BBSF and, turn its geodiversity into piles of waste rock.
- I support the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service wish to add BBSF to the conservation reserve system as a matter of priority; it is an area with outstanding natural values.
- Permitting this proposal would see the NSW Coalition Government privatising and liquidating a large part of public land, whereas I expect state forests to be protected from destruction in perpetuity.
- The Gardens of Stone's iconic and unique sandstone pagodas provide a safe haven for a variety of native flora and fauna; it is a biodiversity hot-spot. If approved, their features and stability may be threatened by partial or total collapse, compromising the region's tourism.
- Our iconic Lyrebirds use the sides of pagodas in this area to nest and raise their young. Mining will completely remove their food habitats.
- Habitats for the Regent Honeyeater, Tiger Quoll and Powerful Owl and at least 32 threatened native animals, 5 of which are listed under the EPBC Act, will be completely removed.
- The large open-cut will create significant dust and air quality issues which will directly affect local residents.
- The open-cut poses risks to the quality and quantity of westward-flowing surface water, and the quality of eastward-flowing groundwater.

I also ask you make representations to the Hon. Robyn Parker, Minister for the Environment, requesting that she takes the steps necessary to protect the region within a State Conservation Area.

Yours Sincerely,

Signature

The section below this line will not be forwarded to your local MP

Please complete and sign this letter and post it to us at the BMCS so we may deliver it to your Local Member of Parliament in person. To complete the sections near 'To' and 'Dear' simply write the name of your local Member, E.G.: Mrs. Roza Sage or Mr. Paul Toole. If you do not know who your local member is we can complete this for you.

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive more information from the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.